

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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AMEMBASSY AMNAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY HZSMASCUS

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS BAGHDAD 0170

DAMASCUS FOR AGATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, EAGR, IZ

SUBJECT: AGRIBUSINESS IOGA TRADE MISSION BY EXPORT

ACTION TEAM, SIINCH.

REF: (A) 1975 BAGHDAD 1129 (NOTAL), (B) 75 STATE
276544 (NOTAL), (C) STATE 022662 (NOTAL)

1. REF A GAVE USINT'S VIEWS ON PROS AND CONS OF
MAY 1976 VISIT BY EXPORT ACTION TEAM, INC (EATI) IOGA
TRADE MISSION ON AGRIBUSINESS THEMES. WITH LONG OVERDUE
PUBLICATION DATE FOR FIVE YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN(1976-80)
NOW THOUGHT TO BE APRIL FIRST, 1976 MAY VISIT

OF EATI MISSION MAY BE SOMEWHAT MORE TIMELY THAN
SUGGESTED REF A. ON OTHER HAND, TEXAS STATE IOGA
NOW SCHEDULED FOR MAY 3 - 8, WILL ALSO FOCUS ON
AGRIBUSINESS AND AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

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2. STATE OF INDIANA IOGA MISSION RECENTLY DECIDED
DROP IRAQ FROM ITINERARY BECAUSE IT FELT LIMITED

SUPPORT SMALL USINT STAFF COULD GUARANTEE WAS INADEQUATE TO MISSION'S NEEDS. AT THIS POINT, TWO WEEKS AFTEG VISIT OF STATE OF TEXAS MISSION ADVANCE MEN, WE HAVE STILL TO RECEIVE GOI APPROVAL OF TEXAS MISSION, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE INFORMAL ASSURANCE THAT APPROVAL WILL BE FORTHCOMING. USINT CAN, THEREFORE, WELL UNDERSTAND THAT ELEMENT OF SUSPENSE AND AURA OF UNFAMILIARTY ASSOCIATED WITH IRAQ CAN BE UNNERVING TO MISSION PLANNERS.

3. WE HAD HOPED THAT ANTICIPATED JANUARY ONE PUBLICA-
TION OF 1976-80 FIVE YEAR PLAN WOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE
FOR US REPLY IN DETAIL TO REF B'S QUESHSON "WHETHER
TURNKEY PROJECTS IN THE FIELD OF AGRIBRINESS ARE
FEASIBLE... AND WHAT ARE THE ONGOING AND PLANNED
AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS WHICH WILL BE OF INTEREST TO
THE MISSIONS." IN CONTINUING ABSENCE OF PLAN DOCUMENTS,
HOWEVER, IS IMPOSSIBLE TO ANSWER QUESTION WITH
SPECIFICS. IN GENERAL ANSWER IS YES, THERE WILL BE
ENORMOUS FOREIGN INPUTS INTO AGRICULTURE, IRRIGA-

TION AND
AGRIBUSINESS FOR WHICH THE GOVERNMENT EXPECTS
TO SPEND BETWEEN NINE AND FIFTEEN BILLION DOLLARS ON
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS 1976-1980. GOVERNMENT WISHES ACT
PROMPTLY TO HALT DRIFT OF POPULATION TO INDUSTRIAL
EMPLOYMENT IN CITIES. PLANS TO CREATIVE MASSIVE SYSTEM
OF STATE FARMS (ALONG LINES OF USSR), COOPERATIVES
(ALONG LINES OF POLAND) AND INCREASE TECHNICAL AND
MATERIAL SUPPORT FOR WHAT MU LEFT OF PRIVATE FARMS.
GOI ALSO PLANS DEVELOP (BY IRRIGATION AND WELLS) FOUR
TO FIVE MILLION ACRES OF NEW OR RECLAIMED CROP AND
GRAZING LANDS IN 1976-80. IRAQ HOPES BY 1980 BE SELF-
SUFFICIENT IN MAJOR FOOD GRAINS. GOVERNMENT IS GIVING
HIGH PRIORITY TO DAIRIES, MODERN POULTRY OPERATIONS
AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES. HAS BEFORE IT PROPOSALS
FOR LARGE SCALE REFORESTATION, CREATION OF GREEN BELTS
AROUND URBAN AREAS AND FISH FARMS. GOVERNMENT ALSO
KEEN TO DEVELOP NATIONWIDE NETWORK OF GOVERNMENT-
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OPERATED SUPPORT SERVICES FOR ALL THREE CATEGORIES
OF IRAQI FARMS (STATE, COOPERATIVE, PRIVATE): TO
INCLUDE CENTRALIZED STATIONS FOR VASE OF TRACTORS
AND IMPLEMENTERQND PROVISION OF SUBSIDIZED INPUTS
SUCH AS FERTILIZERS; DEVELOPMENT OF A HIGHLY
QUALIFIED EXTENSION SEGDCKE CADRE; CREATION OF A
PROGRAM OF QUALITY CONTROLS FOR AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS
AND SO ON.

4. REGRET WE CAN BE NO MORE SPECIFIC AT THIS

TIME. WE ARE RECEIVING AND ASSISTING AVERAGE OF
FIVE US BUSINESS GROUPS EACH DAY IN COURSE OF
SIX DAY WORKING WEEK. SOMDSARE IIRSUIING MULTI
MILLION DOLLAR PROJECTS. WILL BE ANOTHER SIX MONTHS
OR SO BEFORE USINT IS STAFFED (AND LOCAL STAFF IS
TRAINED) TO DO JUSTICE TO ALL DEMANDS NOW BEING
PLLACED UPON IT. WE HAVE NO DOUBT THAT MISSION WILL
BE IMPRESSED BY WHAT IT FINDS BY WAY OF AGRIBUSINESS
OFFICES
IN BAGHDAD BUT WE LACK TIME, STAFF AND INFORMATION

TO LAY THIS OUT IN CONVINCING PROJECT-

BY-PROJECT FORMAT.

5. PLEASE ADVISE MISSITU'S CURRENT STATUS AND
SEND ASAP BROCHURES OF INDIVIDUAL COMPANIES SO
THAT WE CAN ATTEMPT MATCH US CAPABILITIES UP WITH
FRAGMENTARY INFORMATION LIKELY TO BECOME AVAILABLE
IN THE
FIVE YEAR PLAN.
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